

A Closer Look at Discretionary Spending

Spending that lawmakers control through annual appropriation acts

Discretionary Spending at a Glance

\$1.2 Trillion

Discretionary spending by the federal government in 2013

\$626 Billion

Spending in 2013 on national defense, the largest component of discretionary spending

7.2%

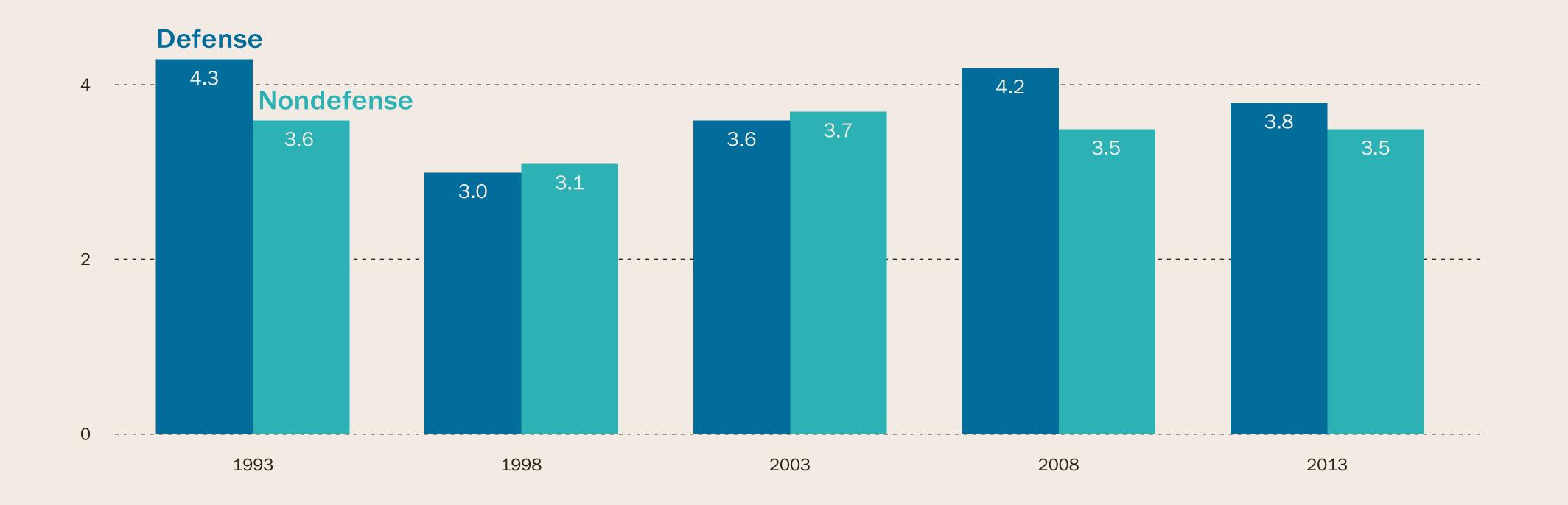
Discretionary spending as a percentage of gross domestic product in 2013

7.3%

Average discretionary spending as a percentage of gross domestic product between 1993 and 2012

Trends in Discretionary Spending

Percentage of gross domestic product



Discretionary Spending in 2013

Billions of dollars

